

MARVEL

EXCLUSIVE

**INFINITY
COMICS**

X-MEN
**FROM THE
ASHES**



020

X-MEN

FROM THE ASHES

#20

“BECALMED”

Part 2

I SLEPT
IN MY MUM'S
LINEN CUPBOARD
AGAIN LAST
NIGHT.

REMEMBER WHEN
I THOUGHT IT WAS
THE POSSUMS OUTSIDE
KEEPING ME UP WITH
THEIR SCREAMING
AND STUFF?

TURNS OUT
IT'S BEEN MY RADAR
SENSE ALL ALONG. HAVEN'T
BEEN ABLE TO TURN IT OFF
SINCE WE LEFT KRAKOA--
JUST PERPETUALLY SET
TO "DANGER."



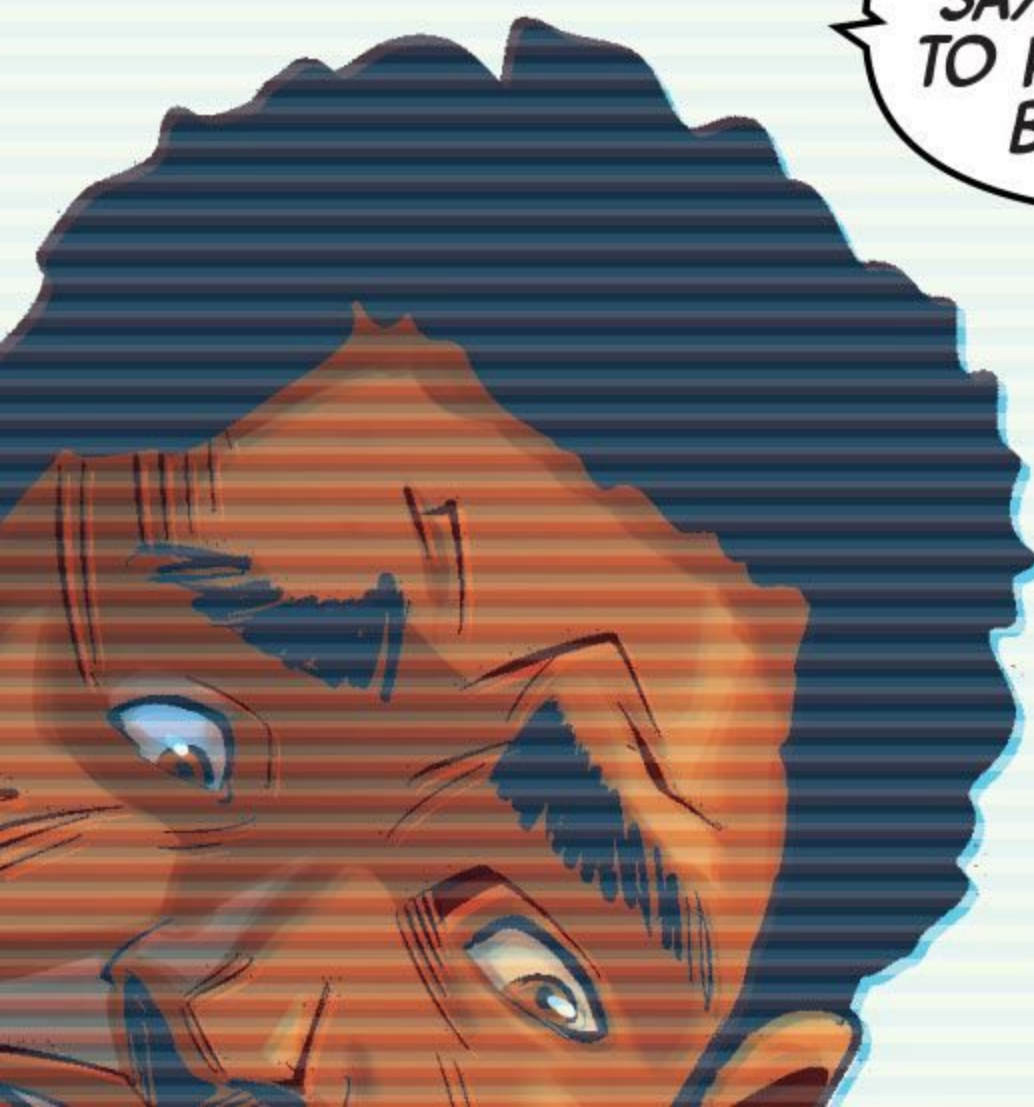


JACK MEAD

KICKER OF
IT IS, EVERY TIME
I USE IT, MY BODY
TURNS BRITTLE, LIKE
EGGSHELL.

LOOK AT THE
\$%&#@ STATE
OF ME!

HAVE TO
SAY, I'M STARTING
TO REGRET COMING
BACK, FELLAS.





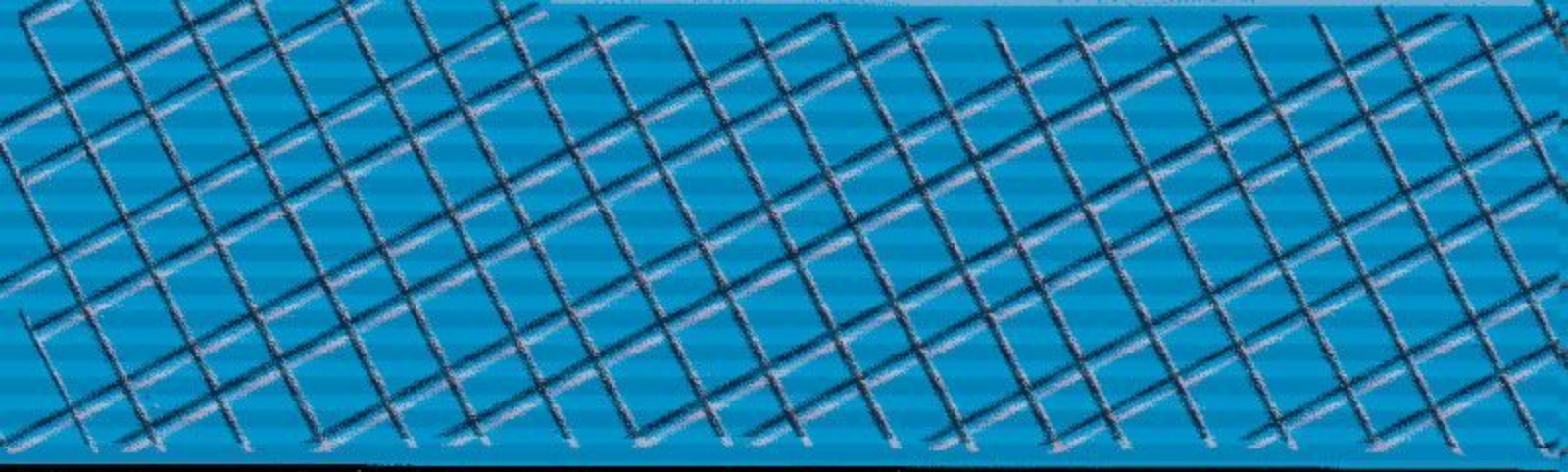


MATE, HOW
DO YOU THINK
I FEEL?

I ONLY
CAME BACK TO GIVE
IT ANOTHER SHOT WITH
RYAN, BUT HE'S BACK
IN WELLINGTON AND
HE WON'T TAKE
MY CALLS.

IF IT
WASN'T FOR
YOU BLOKES...
THIS GROUP...

GRIZZLY



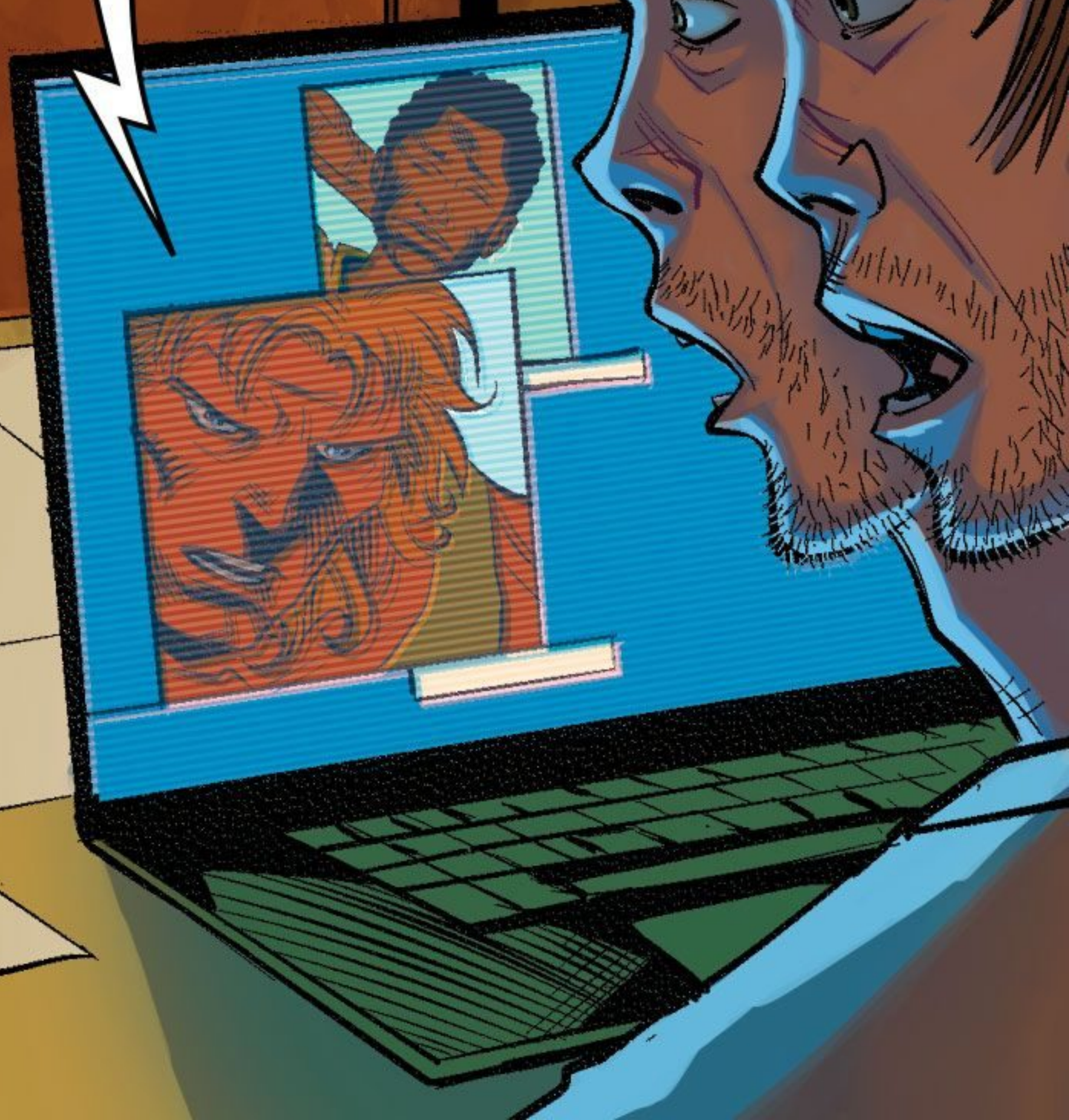
***BRISBANE,
AUSTRALIA.***



WHAT
ABOUT YOU,
STEVE?

WHAT
ABOUT ME,
GRIZZLY?

WHY'D
YOU COME
BACK?





WHY ELSE?

DIDN'T
WANNA MISS THE
CRICKET.



OI, UGLY
JOHN! GET
IN HERE!



SORRY,
TREV, I'M JUST
ON THE--

YOUR LITTLE
**MUTIE SUPPORT
GROUP** CAN WAIT,
SUNSHINE. WE OPEN
IN AN HOUR, AND THE
DUNNIES STILL NEED
CLEANING.

AH.
THE DUNNIES.
RIGHT.





WHAT'S
GOING
ON?



THAT? SOME
CARRY-ON DOWN
IN SURFERS
PARADISE.

ONE OF
YOUR LOT FROM
THE LOOKS OF
THINGS.



WHOLE
COUNTRY'S
GONE TO HELL IN A
HANDBASKET SINCE YOU
FREAKS CAME BACK, IF
YOU ASK ME.





HEATHER ALWAYS
HATED THE MALL.

RADISE CENTRE

A comic book panel depicting a chaotic city street scene. In the foreground, a man in a blue jacket and white shirt is running towards the left with a look of intense fear. Behind him, several other people are running in various directions, some looking back over their shoulders. The background shows city buildings and a large blue structure, possibly a bridge or overpass. The overall color palette is dominated by blues and greys, with some warmer tones in the characters' clothing.

EVERYBODY
RUN! THERE'S A
MONSTER IN
THERE!

MY
SKIN...FEELS
LIKE IT'S ON
FIRE!

AS SOON AS SHE WAS
OLD ENOUGH TO FEEL EYES
UPON HER, COMING HERE
ALWAYS FELT LIKE A JOB.

CAN'T...CAN'T
BREATHE...

SKRITCH
SKRITCH

I...I DON'T
WANNA HURT
ANYONE! I JUST
WANNA GO
HOME!

SKRITCH
SKRITCH



THE WORK OF CONSUMPTION
REFRAMED AS LEISURE. A NEW
TRICK THAT GOT OLD FAST.



HERE, UNDER GLASS,
IS WHERE SHE USED
TO SOURCE ALL THE
DECORATIONS AND
DECOCTIONS SHE WAS

TOLD SHE NEEDED TO
BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY.



GOD
HELP ME, WHAT
IS IT?

SKRITCH
SKRITCH



IT NEVER
WORKED.

SHE WAS ALWAYS TOO
SKINNY OR NOT SKINNY
ENOUGH. SHE EITHER
SMILED TOO MUCH
OR TOO LITTLE.





AND GOD HELP HER
IF SHE HAD ANY
BREAKOUTS.

THAT FACE AND THAT
BODY ARE GONE NOW.
PERHAPS FOREVER.

WHAT ARE
YOU LOOKING
AT?!





IF SHE WASN'T
SO TERRIFIED, SHE
MIGHT EVEN FEEL
SOMETHING CLOSE
TO RELIEF.

FREEZE!
WH-WHATEVER
YOU ARE, Y-YOU'RE
UNDER ARREST!



THERE WAS A TIME WHEN HER ADAPTIVE
MUTATION WAS TRIGGERED WHENEVER
THERE WAS A THREAT TO HUMAN LIFE.



NOW
HUMANITY
ITSELF IS THE
TRIGGER.

I JUST
WANNA SEE
MY MUM!

BLAMM



THE POPULATION
OF AUSTRALIA IS
AN ESTIMATED
27,000,000
PEOPLE.

**GOLD COAST
UNIVERSITY
HOSPITAL.**

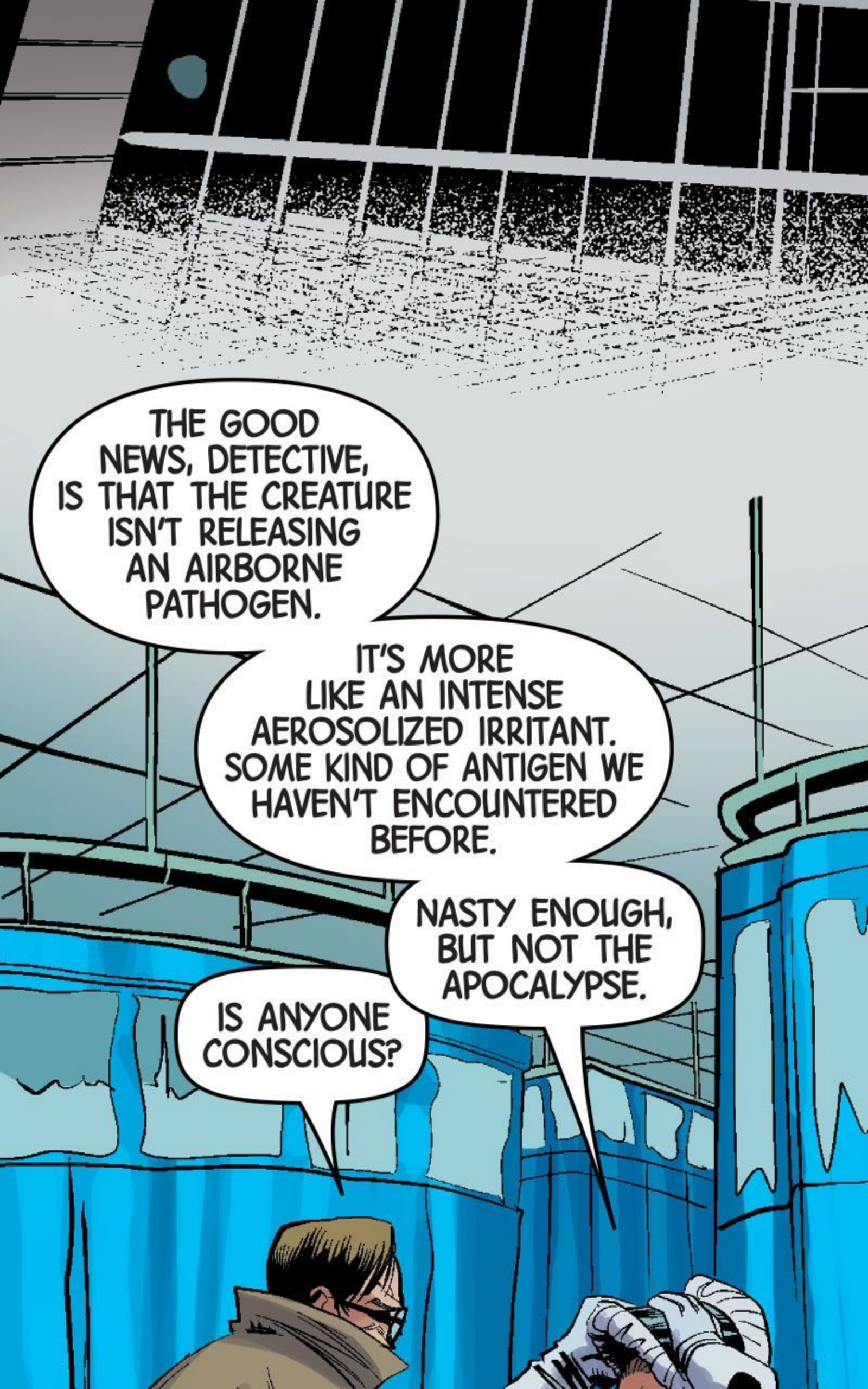
HOW MANY
NOW, DOCTOR?
DO WE NEED TO



DO WE NEED TO
LOCK THE TOWN
DOWN?

EIGHTEEN
PATIENTS SO
FAR, BUT THERE
ARE MORE INBOUND
FROM THE PARADISE
CENTER.

EMERGENCY



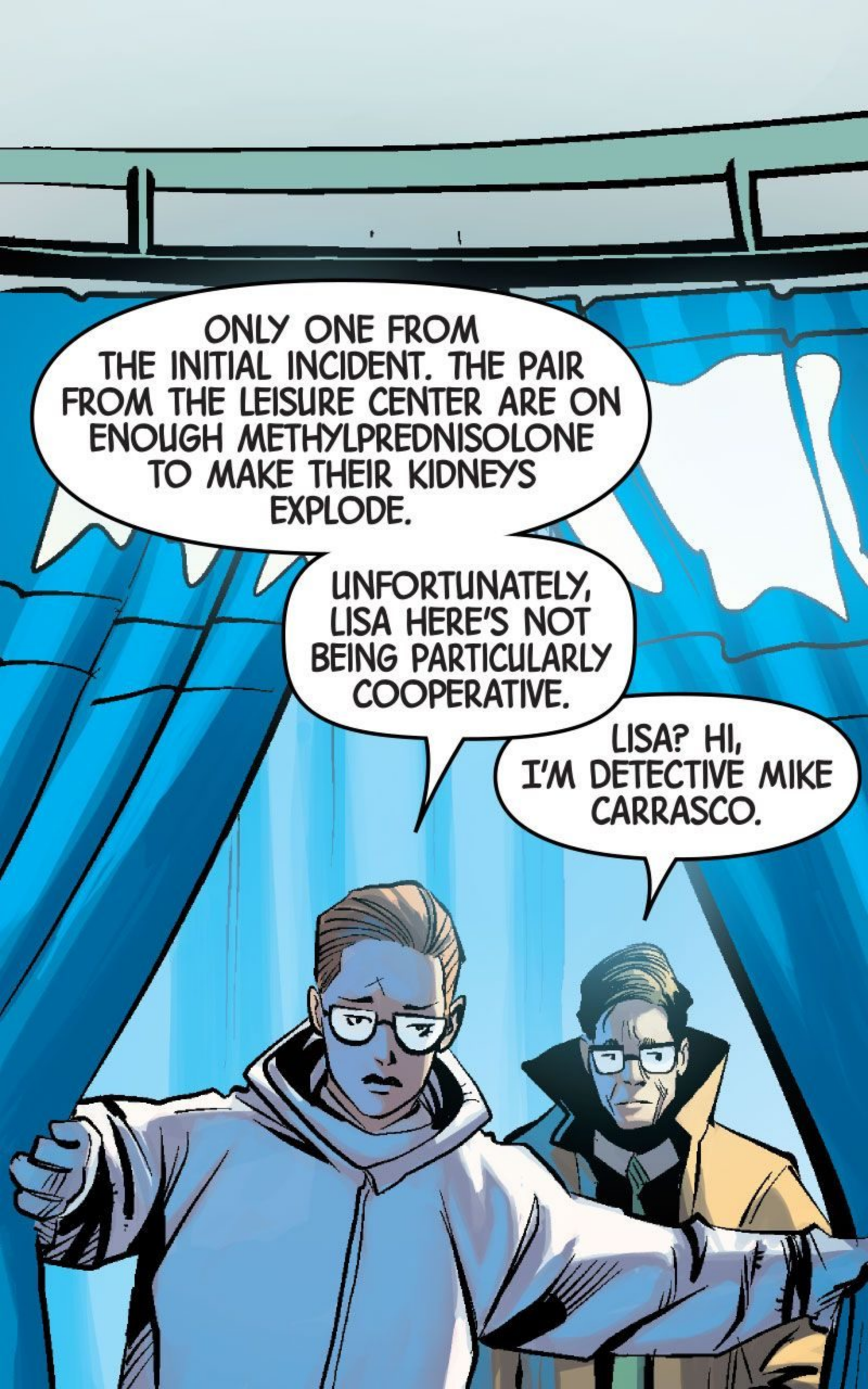
THE GOOD
NEWS, DETECTIVE,
IS THAT THE CREATURE
ISN'T RELEASING
AN AIRBORNE
PATHOGEN.

IT'S MORE
LIKE AN INTENSE
AEROSOLIZED IRRITANT.
SOME KIND OF ANTIGEN WE
HAVEN'T ENCOUNTERED
BEFORE.

NASTY ENOUGH,
BUT NOT THE
APOCALYPSE.

IS ANYONE
CONSCIOUS?



A comic book panel featuring two characters in a blue, possibly underwater or industrial setting. The character on the left is a man with glasses and a white hoodie, looking forward with a serious expression. The character on the right is a man with glasses and a yellow jacket, looking towards the first character. Three speech bubbles are present, containing text about a medical incident and a detective's introduction.

ONLY ONE FROM
THE INITIAL INCIDENT. THE PAIR
FROM THE LEISURE CENTER ARE ON
ENOUGH METHYLPREDNISOLONE
TO MAKE THEIR KIDNEYS
EXPLODE.

UNFORTUNATELY,
LISA HERE'S NOT
BEING PARTICULARLY
COOPERATIVE.

LISA? HI,
I'M DETECTIVE MIKE
CARRASCO.



CAN I
GO HOME YET? MY
DOG'LL BE GETTING
SCARED.

I JUST
NEED A
SECOND.





EYEWITNESSES
HAVE YOU TRYING TO
TALK TO THIS...INDIVIDUAL
AFTER THEY JUMPED OUT
A THIRD-FLOOR WINDOW
AND LANDED NEAR
YOUR CAR.

LIKE
YOU **KNEW**
THEM.

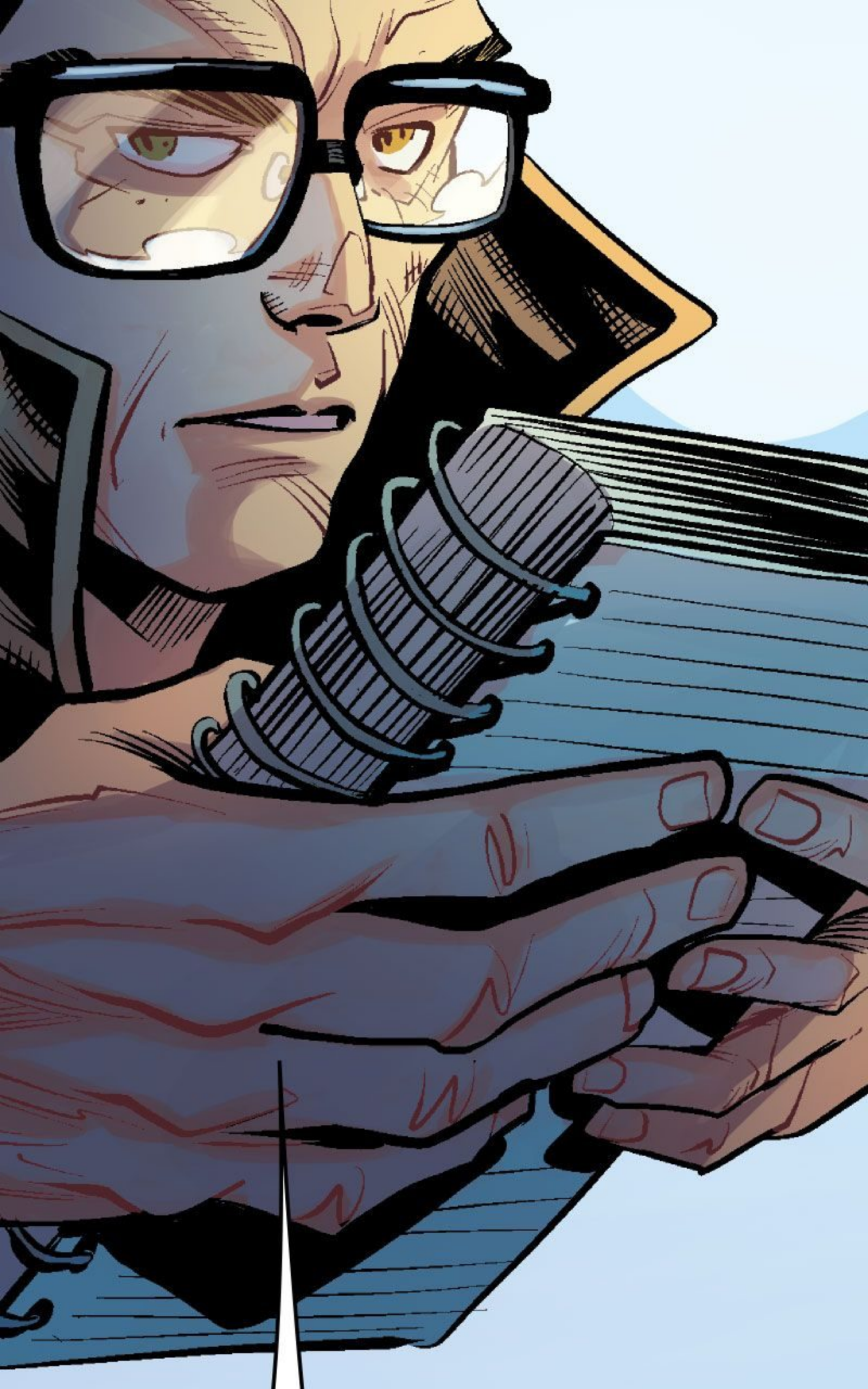
DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE
TALKING ABOUT,
DETECTIVE



A comic book panel with a low-angle perspective. At the top, a grey table with black legs is visible. A character with blonde hair is seen from the chest up, looking down at the table. In the bottom left corner, the back of a person's head with dark hair is shown, looking up. The background is a bright blue sky with white clouds.

LOOK...IF
THIS IS A FRIEND
OF YOURS, YOU SHOULD
KNOW THEY'VE INJURED
A LOT OF PEOPLE
TODAY.

IT'S A
MIRACLE NOBODY'S
DIED, BUT WE BOTH
KNOW IT'S ONLY
A MATTER OF
TIME.



SO IF YOU
KNOW ANYTHING
THAT MIGHT **HELP US**
HELP THEM--PLEASE
TELL US...





"...BEFORE ANYBODY
ELSE GETS HURT."

TONK
TONK





HHH! HHH!
WHAT'S THIS
NOW?



--STURBANCE AT THE
PARADISE CENTER MALL
IN SURFERS PARADISE.
WE NOW GO LIVE TO
OUR CORRESPONDENT
DAN JENNINGS, WHO
IS ON THE SCENE...

MUM...
MUM, PLEASE
DON'T OPEN
THE DOOR.

HEATHER?
MY--HHH!--
GOD, GIRL. WHAT'S
HAPPENED TO
YOU?

I DON'T
KNOW, MUM.
MY POWERS HAVE GONE
HAYWIRE OR SOMETHING.
I WAS EVEN THAT **SHI'AR**
BIRD THING AGAIN
FOR A MINUTE.

I'M
SCARED.







MUM,
NO!

OH, PUT
A SOCK IN IT, YOU
SOOK. I'M YOUR
MOTHER.

NOW--
*HHH!--*COME
HERE!





...A FURTHER THIRTEEN
PEOPLE INJURED,
INCLUDING A POLICE
OFFICER.

A MANHUNT IS NOW UNDERWAY,
AND SURFERS PARADISE RESIDENTS
ARE BEING ADVISED TO STAY IN
THEIR HOMES AS...



HEATHER?
WHAT ARE YOU...?
I DON'T FEEL
SO...

NO.



I'M DOING
THIS.

JACK...
YOU'RE SURE IT'S
39? THAT'S WHERE
SHE LIVES?

LAST
I CHECKED

A comic book panel showing a man with brown hair and a beard, wearing a red sweater, sitting in the driver's seat of a car. He is looking out the window with a surprised expression. Outside the window, a person is holding up a photograph of the man. A speech bubble from the person outside says, "I CHECKED, YEAH." The car's interior, including the window frame and a side mirror, is visible.

I CHECKED,
YEAH.

MATE, IF
I ROLL UP TO SOME
STRANGER'S HOUSE AND
THEY COME AT ME WITH
PITCHFORKS, I'LL BREAK
SOMETHING OFF
YOU MYSELF.



HEATHER?
LIFEGUARD, ARE
YOU IN THERE?



REMEMBER
ME? MY NAME'S
STEVE...UH, UGLY JOHN.
YOU KNOW ME FROM
BACK ON THE
ISLAND.

I USED
TO RUN THE,
UH...THE PUB QUIZ.
TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS
AT THE GREEN
LAGOON.

HLKK!
GKK!







OH,
BLOODY
HELL.

A comic book panel showing a man with brown hair and a light beard, wearing a red shirt. He has a shocked expression with wide eyes and an open mouth. He is looking towards the right. The background is a brown wall with a blue horizontal band. Two speech bubbles are present. The first speech bubble contains the text "LUV...LUV... CAN YOU HEAR ME?!". The second speech bubble contains the text "I'M CALLING YOU AN AMBULANCE, OKAY?! JUST STAY WITH ME.".

LUV...LUV...
CAN YOU HEAR
ME?!

I'M CALLING
YOU AN AMBULANCE,
OKAY?! JUST STAY
WITH ME.





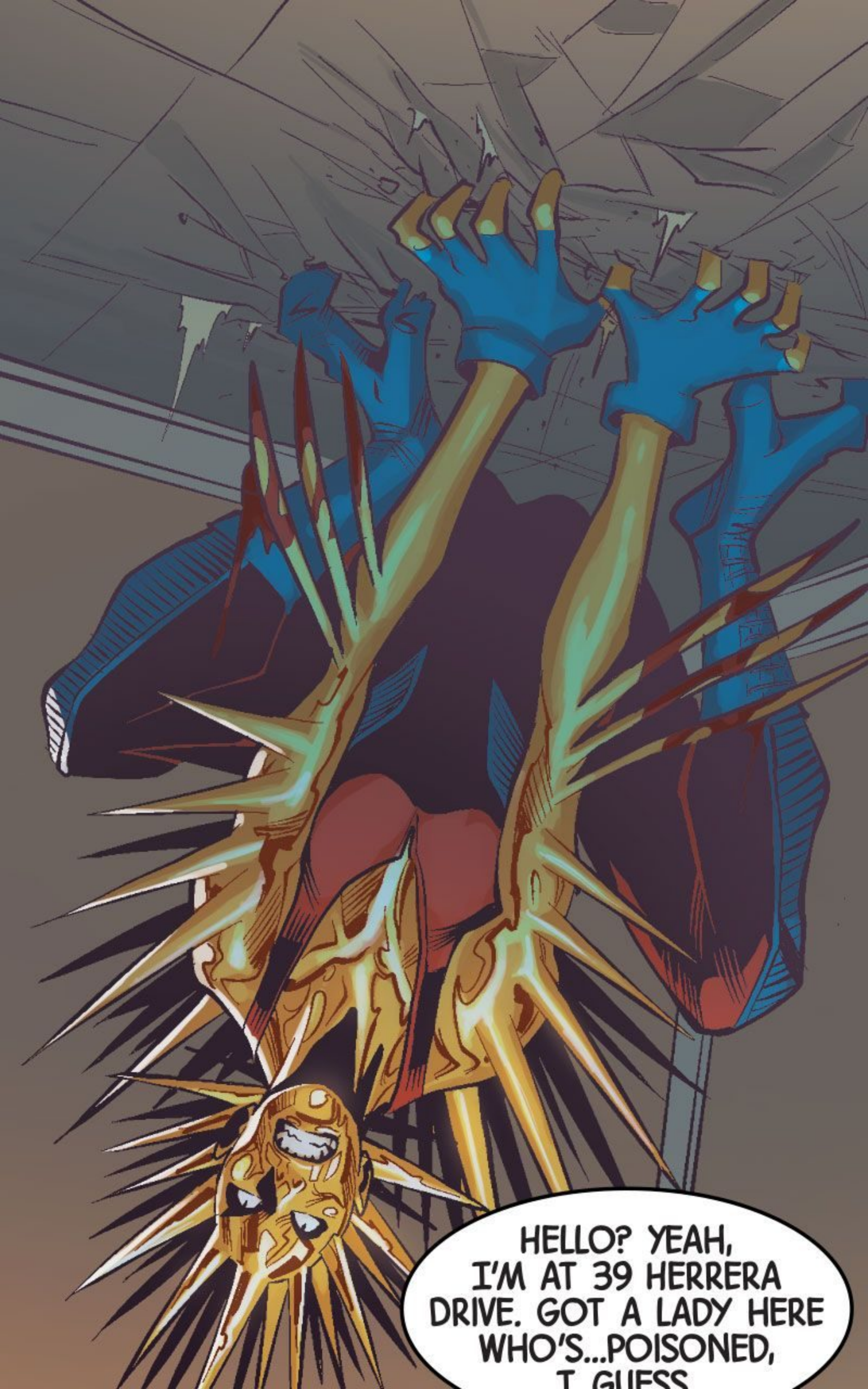
GOD, WHAT
ARE THESE

THINGS?

YOU HAVE
DIALED EMERGENCY
TRIPLE ZERO, YOUR
CALL IS BEING
CONNECTED...







HELLO? YEAH,
I'M AT 39 HERRERA
DRIVE. GOT A LADY HERE
WHO'S...POISONED,
I GUESS



I GUESS.

NO,
I DON'T THINK
IT'S A SPIDER OR
A SNAKE...

***TO BE
CONTINUED!***

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